

Solo Leveling

Art • DUBU (REDICE STUDIO)

Original Novel • Chugong

Story • h-goon

116

BOSS, A NEW GATE
APPEARED YESTERDAY,
BUT IT'S GONNA BE
DIFFICULT FOR US
TO GET AN ENTRY
PERMIT FOR IT.

ACCORDIN' TO THE
HUNTER'S ASSOCIATION,
THE GATE'S RANK IS
PRETTY HIGH.

IS IT AN S-RANK
OR SOMETHIN'?

NO, BUT
THEY SAID IT'S A
TOP-TIER A-RANK
GATE.




WHAT A PAIN IN
THE NECK.

WE COULD
ALL END UP DYIN'
IN THERE IF WE'RE
NOT CAREFUL.

IF IT WERE AN S-RANK,
GIVIN' UP WOULD BE THE
OBVIOUS WAY TO GO. WE
HAVEN'T REALLY GOT THE
MANPOWER TO FORM A
STRIKE SQUAD FOR AN
A-RANK GATE,

BUT WE'RE ONE OF THE
FIVE MAJOR GUILDS IN THE
COUNTRY, SO PEOPLE
MIGHT START TALKIN' IF WE
FAIL TO CLEAR IT...



THE REAL PROBLEM IS
THAT MOST PEOPLE THINK
A, B, C, D, AND E-RANKS
ARE ALL THE SAME.

THE GUYS OVER AT THE
FAME GUILD WILL JUMP AT
THE OPPORTUNITY IF WE
PASS ON THIS GATE...



ARE YA SAYIN'
WE SHOULD JUST
SPOON-FEED MA
DONGWOOK A GATE
THAT SPAWNED IN
OUR OWN FRONT
YARD?!

N...NO, I WAS
JUST LETTIN' YA
KNOW, BOSS.

IN TERMS OF NUMBERS AND
CAPABILITY, OUR A-RANK HUNTERS
ARE BY NO MEANS INFERIOR THAN
A-RANKS FROM THE OTHER
MAJOR GUILDS.

WE JUST DON'T HAVE

ANY S-RANKS IN THE
MIX. THAT'S WHAT
SETS US BACK...

WHY DON'T WE JUST
FORM AN ALLIANCE
WITH ANOTHER GUILD
THEN?

DO YA THINK ANOTHER
GUILD WILL AGREE TO
BE OUR ALLY,

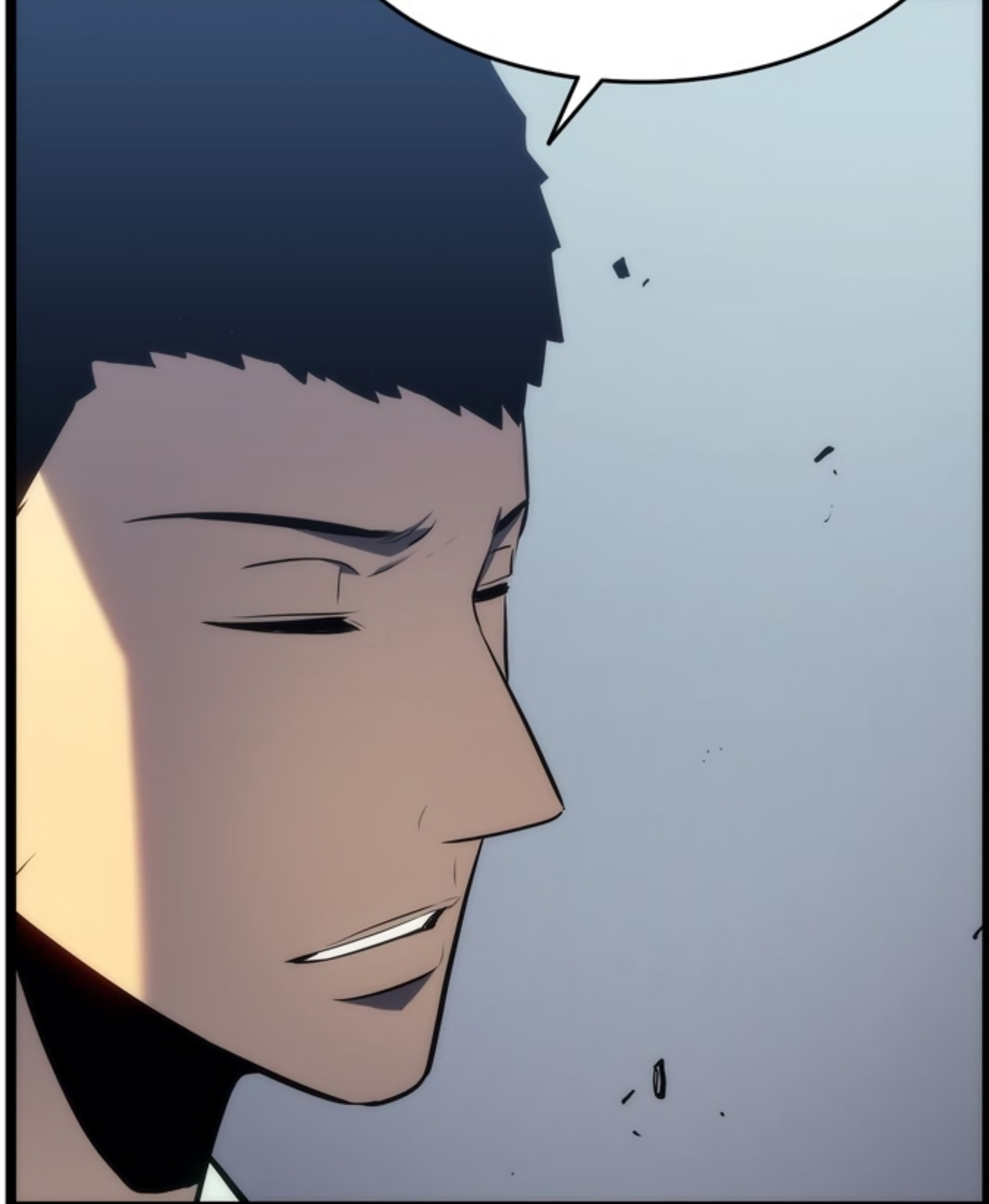
WHEN IT'S OBVIOUS
THAT WE'RE ONLY ASKIN'
FOR HELP 'CAUSE WE
DON'T THINK WE CAN
CLEAR THE GATE BY
OURSELVES?

HOW ABOUT AN
INDIVIDUAL INSTEAD
OF A GUILD?

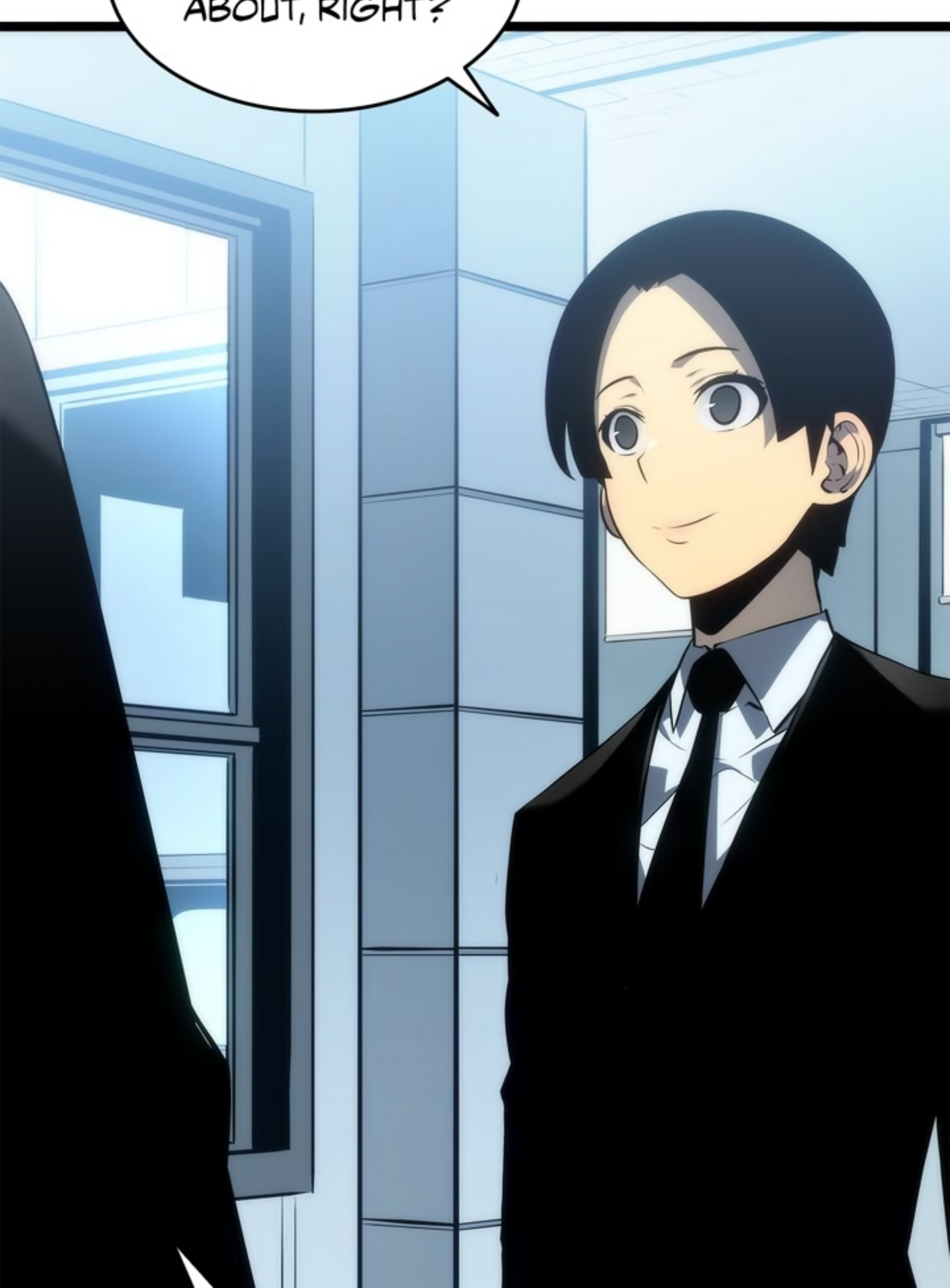


JUNG YERIM
A-RANK
HEALER

THIS IS A TOP-TIER
A-RANK GATE WE'RE
TALKIN' ABOUT. HOW
WOULD A SINGLE
HUNTER MAKE ANY
DIFFERE...



YOU KNOW
WHO I'M TALKING
ABOUT, RIGHT?



YEAH.

YOU'RE TALKIN'
ABOUT SUNG
JINWOO.

CREATIN' AN ALLIANCE
WITH ANOTHER GUILD MIGHT
GIVE US A BAD NAME, BUT THE
PUBLIC MIGHT ACKNOWLEDGE
US MORE IF WE JOIN FORCES
WITH SUNG JINWOO.

PLUS, WE'LL HAVE
A BETTER CHANCE AT
SAFELY CLEARIN' THIS
DANGEROUS RAID.

WHAT'S SUNG
JINWOO UP TO
THESE DAYS?

HE CLEARED A GATE THAT
SPAWNED IN THE MIDDLE OF
A HIGHWAY NOT TOO LONG
AGO, BUT BESIDES THAT,
HE'S BEEN KEEPIN' A
LOW PROFILE.

WOULD YA LIKE
ME TO GET YOU HIS
CONTACT INFO,
BOSS?

NAH, DON'T
BE SILLY.

IT WOULDN'T BE
RIGHT TO HANDLE
SUCH AN IMPORTANT
MATTER OVER THE
PHONE.

LET'S GO PAY
HIM A VISIT.

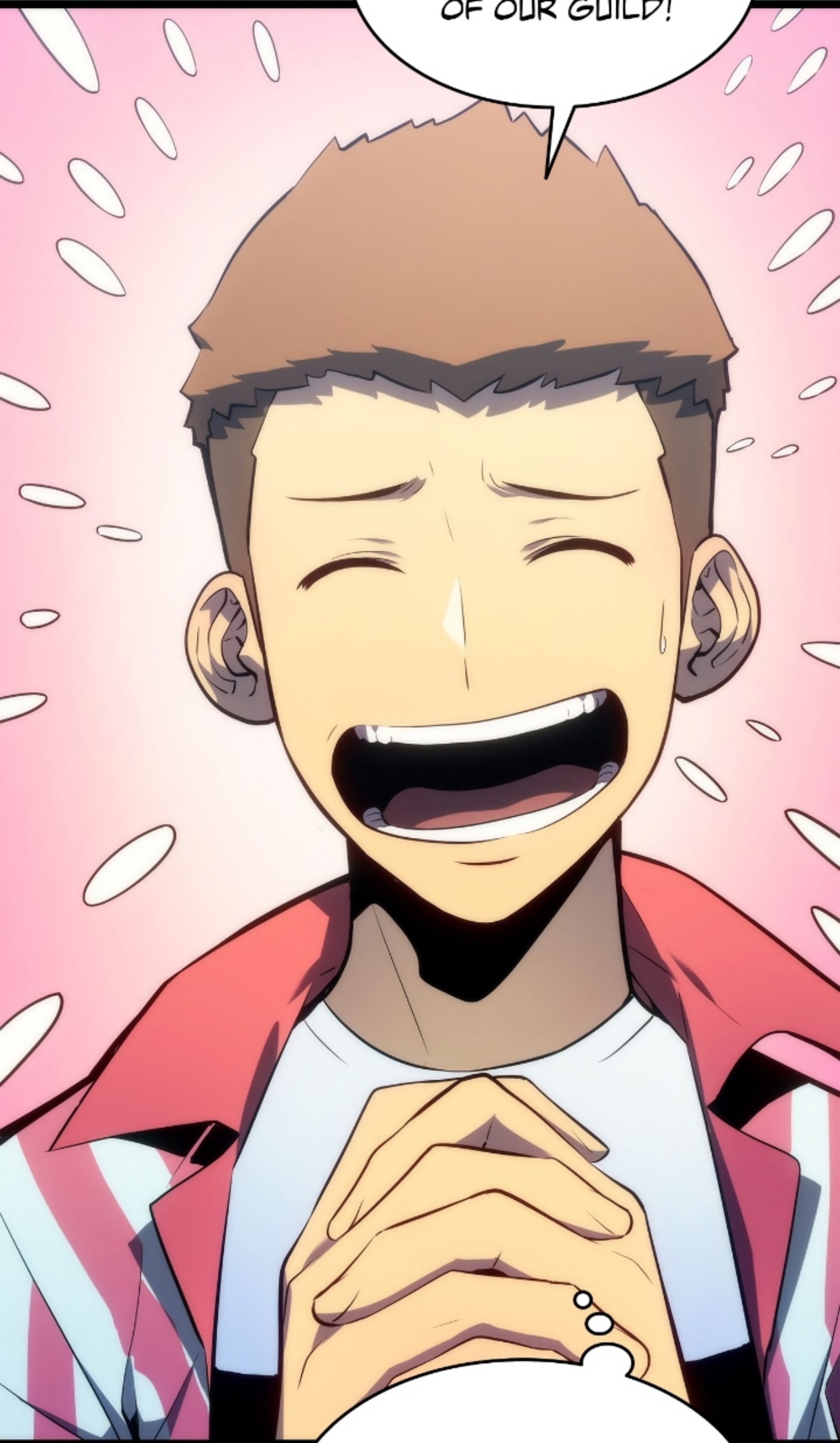


WHAT DO
YOU THINK ABOUT
"AHJIN" GUILD?



THAT... SOUNDS
WONDERFUL, SIR!

LET'S MAKE THAT
THE OFFICIAL NAME
OF OUR GUILD!



ANYTHING'S FINE,
AS LONG AS IT ISN'T
"SOLO PLAYER"
GUILD.

OKAY, THEN.
NOW THAT WE'VE
SETTLED ON
A NAME,

ALL WE HAVE TO
DO IS RECRUIT ONE
LAST FOUNDING
MEMBER, RIGHT?

WHAT
HAPPENED
WITH MS. CHA
YESTERDAY?

I DON'T THINK
MS. CHA'S THE RIGHT
FIT FOR OUR GUILD.
SHE'S NOT THE ONE
I'M LOOKING
FOR.

SHE'S AN S-RANK,
YOUNG, AND HAS A GREAT
PERFORMANCE RECORD.
SHE'S EVEN GOT KILLER
LOOKS...

WHO WOULD BE A
BETTER CANDIDATE
THAN MS. CHA?

GASP

UM, SIR. WHAT
KIND OF PERSON
ARE YOU LOOKING
FOR EXACTLY?

SOMEONE
WITH A HUNTER'S
LICENSE...

WHO HAS NO
INTEREST IN JOINING
A GUILD,

BUT IS STILL
TRUSTWORTHY?



A COUPLE OF
PEOPLE COME TO
MIND, BUT...

Knock
Knock



WHO IS IT?

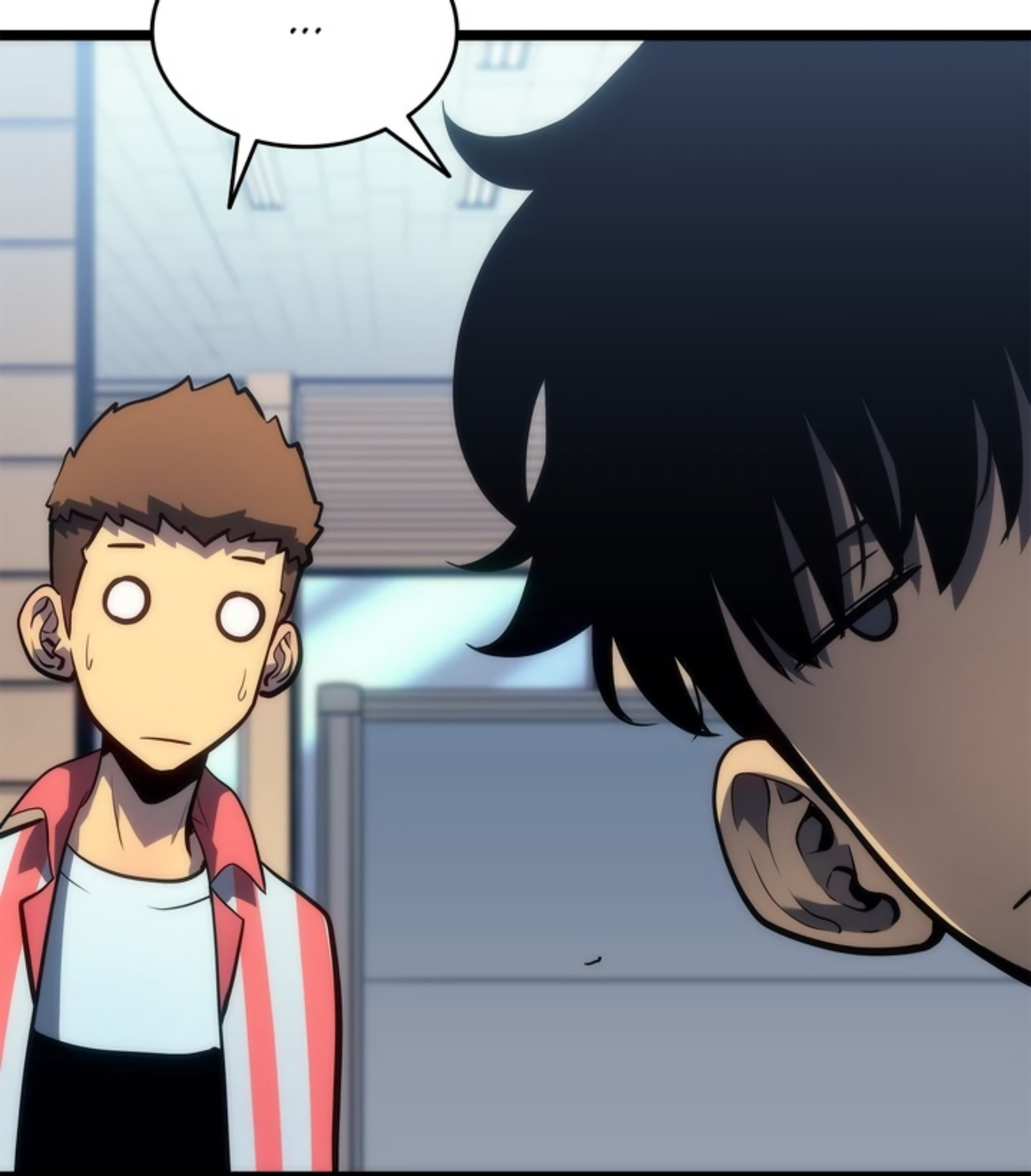
CLACK

COULD IT BE
MS. CHA AGAIN?

HELLO.

I'M PARK JONGSOO,
THE GUILD MASTER OF
THE KNIGHTS GUILD.





ALTHOUGH A GATE'S
SIZE ISN'T ALWAYS
RELATIVE TO ITS
RANK,

THE
AMOUNT OF MANA
EMANATING FROM
THIS ONE MATCHES
ITS GARGANTUAN
SIZE.

DID THE
ASSOCIATION
SAY IT WAS AN
S-RANK?

NO, BUT
IT WAS JUST SHY
OF BEING DEEMED
IMMEASURABLE.

IT'S THE LARGEST
GATE TO EVER APPEAR
IN BUSAN CITY.

BUSAN...?

SHOULD I MEET UP
WITH JOOHEE AND ASK
HER TO TREAT ME TO
SOME SASHIMI?

I'M SURE YOU'VE ALREADY
SEEN THE NEWS, BUT THE
HUNTER'S ASSOCIATION IS
REFUSING TO GIVE US AN
ENTRY PERMIT.

THEY THINK THE RAID
WOULD BE TOO RISKY
BECAUSE THERE ARE NO
S-RANK HUNTERS IN THE
KNIGHTS GUILD.

HOWEVER, THE

ASSOCIATION MAY GIVE
US PERMISSION IF YOU
WERE TO JOIN OUR
STRIKE SQUAD.

I WONDER IF
HE'LL GIVE ME
HIS AUTOGRAPH
IF I ASK...

WE'LL MAKE SURE
TO COMPENSATE YOU
GENEROUSLY.

WHEN A MAJOR GUILD
TAKES ON A DUNGEON, AN
S-RANK HUNTER USUALLY
GETS A 10 PERCENT
SHARE OF THE PROFITS,
GIVE OR TAKE.

HOWEVER, WE ARE
WILLING TO PAY YOU
20 PERCENT.

LET'S
MAKE THAT
FIFTY-FIFTY.





I'M NOT TRYING TO
NEGOTIATE WITH YOU
RIGHT NOW.

THIS TWERP LOOKS
YOUNG, BUT... HE SURE
AIN'T A PUSHOVER.

VERY WELL. BUT IN
RETURN, WE'D LIKE YOU
TO DEFEAT THE DUNGEON
BOSS. CAN YOU DO
THAT FOR US?

SURE, OKAY.

IT'S BEEN A WHILE
SINCE THIS GATE WAS
FIRST DISCOVERED, SO
WE MUST BEGIN THE
RAID TOMORROW AT
THE LATEST.

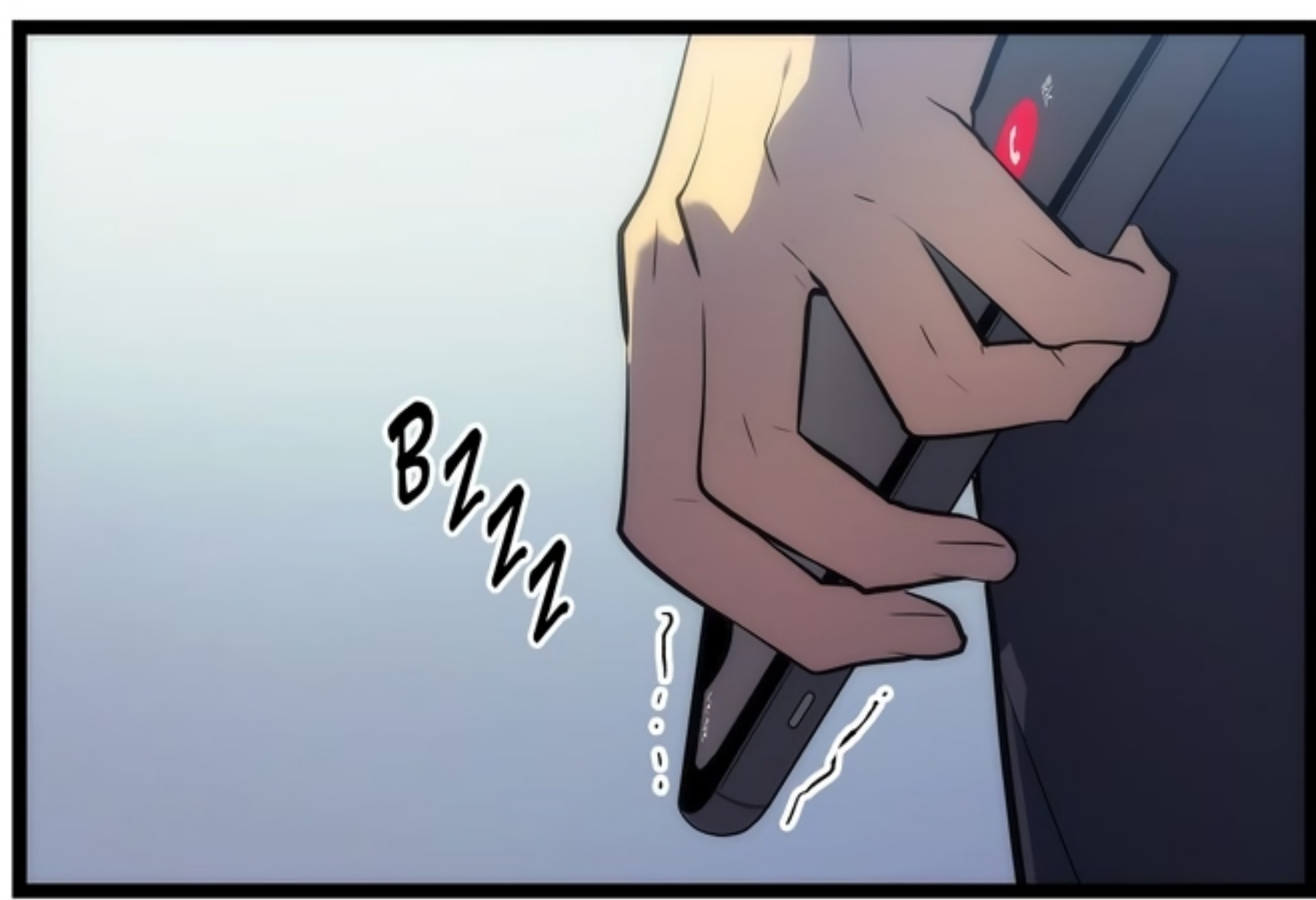
WE CAN GIVE
YOU A RIDE DOWN TO
BUSAN NOW. WHY
DON'T YOU COME
WITH US?

I ACTUALLY HAVE
PLANS TONIGHT, SO
I WILL SEE YOU
TOMORROW.

I PROMISE
THAT I WON'T
BE LATE.

FSHH

HUH? I'M PRETTY
SURE HIS SHADOW
MOVED JUST
NOW...





MOM?

DID YOU GET
A PHONE?

MM-HMM, I CALLED YOU
RIGHT AWAY BECAUSE
I WANTED TO HEAR YOUR
VOICE.

DID I CALL AT A
BUSY TIME?



THE NEXT DAY
AT GWANGALLI
BEACH, BUSAN.

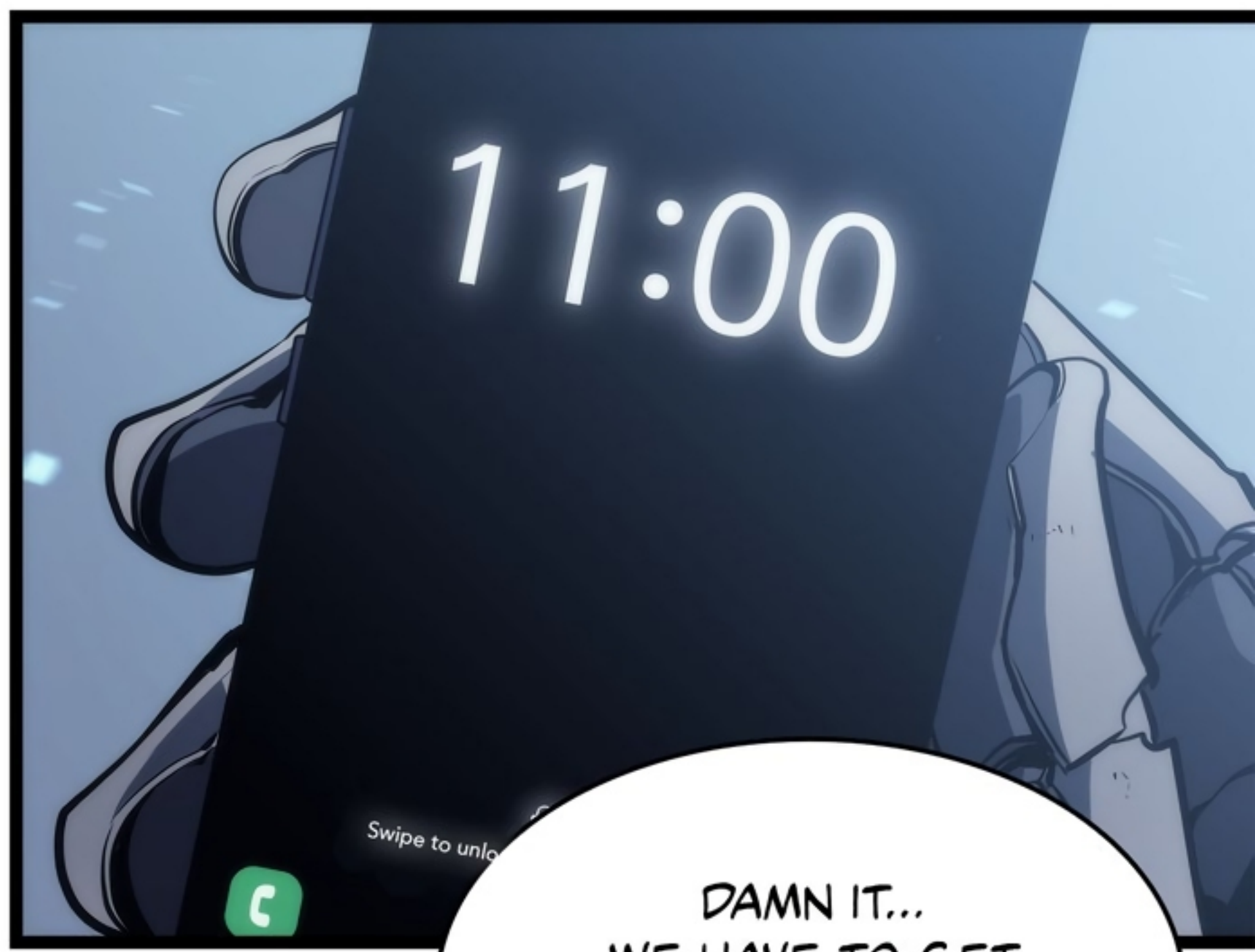
WHOOOSH





ARGH,
I SHOULD'VE JUST
FORCED HIM TO
COME WITH US
YESTERDAY.

I HOPE HE'S
NOT GONNA BE
LATE.



DAMN IT...
WE HAVE TO GET
GOING IN FIVE
MINUTES...







THE WEATHER
DOESN'T LOOK
GOOD.

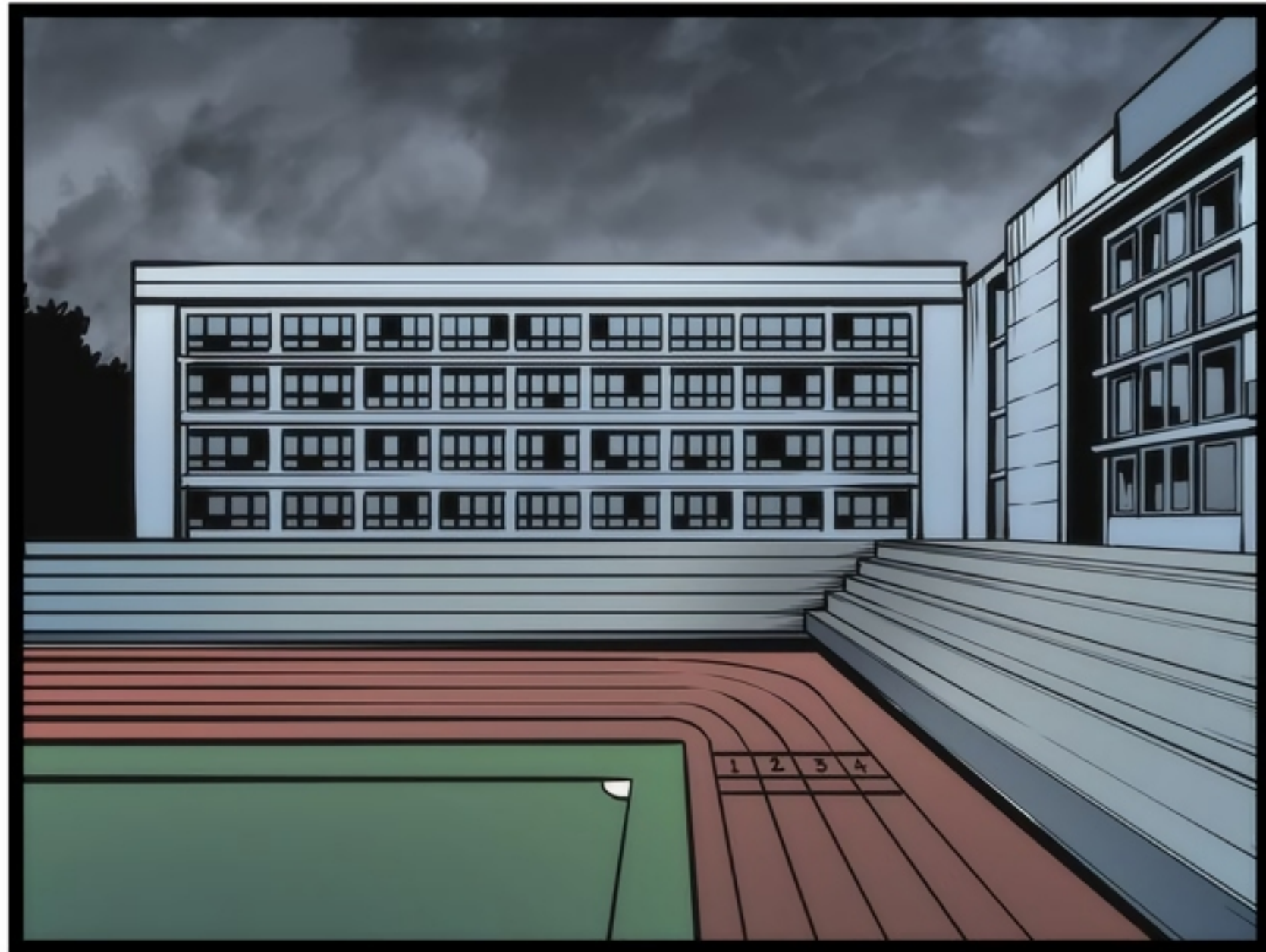
RUMBLE

I HOPE
JINAH TOOK AN
UMBRELLA WITH
HER.



I GUESS
I SHOULD START
HEADING OVER
THERE...

SHADOW
EXCHANGE.



WE'RE
BASICALLY
BEING USED AS
FREE LABOR.

I KNOW,
RIGHT?

WHY DOES THE
ART TEACHER KEEP
DUMPING ALL THEIR
WORK ON US?



HOW MANY
PLASTER BUSTS
ARE WE SUPPOSED
TO BRING AGAIN?

The scene is a hallway with a tiled floor and large windows. Three students in light blue shirts and dark pants are standing. One student in the background is on a phone. The other two are in the foreground, looking towards the left.

WE WERE
SPLIT UP INTO
SIX GROUPS,
SO PROBABLY
ONE FOR
EACH.

UGH... EVEN IF WE
EACH CARRY ONE,
WE'LL STILL HAVE
TO MAKE TWO
TRIPS.

THEN HOW
ABOUT YOU JUST
CARRY FOUR AT
ONCE?

AGH, THE
DUST.

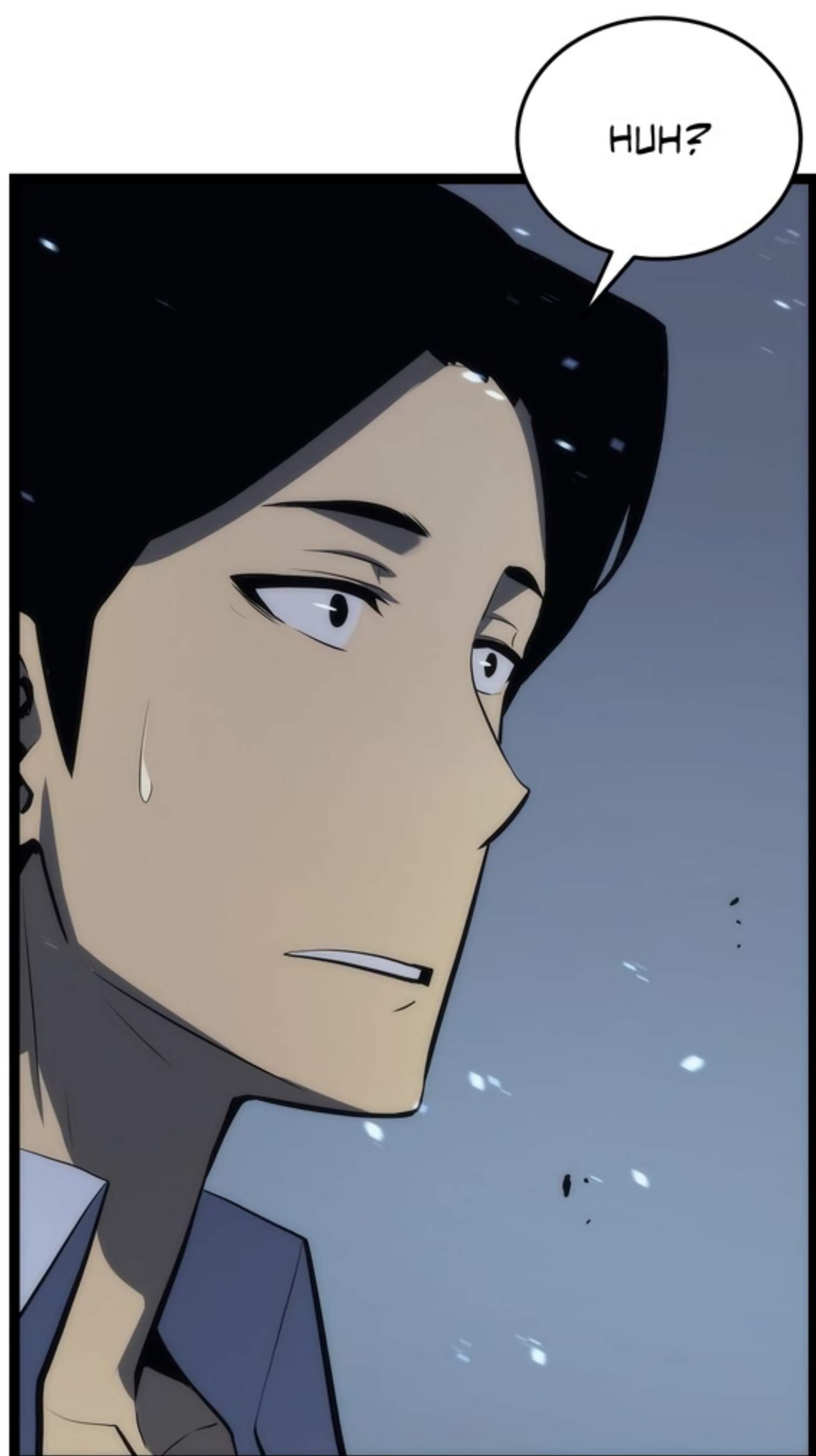
I WONDER WHEN
THIS PLACE WAS
LAST CLEANED.



BLECH.

The scene is a classroom filled with dust and clutter. There are desks, chairs, and various items scattered around. A clock is visible on the wall. The lighting is dim, and the overall atmosphere is one of neglect.

THIS ROOM
PROBABLY HASN'T
BEEN USED ALL
SEMESTER.





CHILL OUT, YOU GUYS. THIS GATE IS CLOSED, SO IT'S TOTALLY SAFE.

HUNTERS ARE THE ONLY ONES THAT CAN PASS THROUGH HERE, AND NOTHING INSIDE CAN GET OUT EITHER.

PLUS, IT'LL TAKE ABOUT A WEEK FOR THIS GATE TO OPEN.



BUT DIDN'T YOU SAY THIS ROOM'S BEEN NEGLECTED ALL SEMESTER?

THE FACT THAT WE ONLY JUST FOUND IT NOW MUST MEAN THAT...







CRUSH



JOONSUK!!!

To Be Continued...

Solo
Leveling

D&C
WEBTOON

REDICE
STUDIO

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